

JUN 04 2007

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

RODRICK A. HERDMAN

Confirmation No: 2657

Serial No.: 10/708,658

Group Art Unit: 3676

Filed: March 17, 2004

Examiner: GALL, Lloyd A.

Title: RAPID-CHANGE LOCK

DECLARATION OF RODRICK A. HERDMAN

I, Rodrick A. Herdman, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 7397 Quail Run Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069, do solemnly declare as follows:

I saw prior to the date of May 8, 2002 a standard cylinder lock having a plug, the plug having a plurality of standard tumbler chambers, and a plurality of blind holes, each blind hole off-set radially from one of the tumbler chambers. The lock comprising the described plug had only one small ball within one of the blind holes. In another similar lock, a plurality of smaller balls were found all clustered into a single one of the blind holes.

The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that the statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or patent issuing thereon.

DEC 12, 2005

Date


RODRICK A. HERDMAN